

**REMARKS**

Claims 11-19 and 21-29 are pending in this application. In view of the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

**I. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103**

The Office Action rejects claims 11-19 and 21-29 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,398,854 to Aonuma (herein "Aonuma"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 11 is directed to a silver mirror film forming method that requires "preparing an ammonical silver salt aqueous solution, an aqueous solution of caustic soda and an aqueous solution of a reducing agent." Nowhere does Aonuma teach or suggest that three aqueous solutions are to be prepared separately.

Claim 11 also requires, "mixing said aqueous solution of the caustic soda and said aqueous solution of the reducing agent to obtain a mixed liquid" (emphasis added). Despite its asserted teachings, Aonuma fails to teach or suggest preparing an aqueous solution of caustic soda and a separate aqueous solution of reducing agent, and then mixing the two aqueous solutions together to obtain a mixed liquid. Instead, Aonuma teaches preparing a reducing solution by adding an amount of a solid reducing agent and an amount of a solid base component to water to form a single aqueous solution. See column 4, lines 57-60; column 5, lines 1-5; column 5, line 32 to column 6, line 4; column 11, lines 10-14; and column 12, lines 27-30. For instance, in Examples A1 to A9 of Aonuma, the reducing solution contains "0.015 mol of sodium gluconate and 8.4 g of sodium hydroxide" in 1000 mL of aqueous solution. See column 4, lines 57-60. Therefore, the reducing solution of Aonuma is prepared from solids, rather than aqueous solutions. As further evidence, Aonuma discloses that the process for forming the silver film is a two-package type solution system having: (1) an ammoniac nitrate solution; and (2) a reducing solution. See column 2, lines

10-22. The Office Action points to no specific teaching or suggestion in Aonuma to separately prepare an aqueous solution of the caustic soda and an aqueous solution of the reducing agent, and a person of ordinary skill in the art would not have recognized Aonuma as containing a teaching or suggestion to the same.

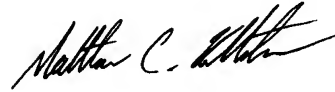
For at least these reasons, claim 11 would not have been rendered obvious by Aonuma. Claims 12-19 and 21-29 variously depend from claim 11 and, thus, also would not have been rendered obvious by Aonuma. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

## **II. Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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